

REMARKS

Further to the After Final Amendment of July 24, 2009, and prior to issuance of any Advisory Action, Applicant timely submits a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) and a Preliminary Amendment. Applicant submits that this Preliminary Amendment amends Claim 1 but does not amend Claims 2, 3, 5-7 and 18-20 of the previously referenced After Final Amendment. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

It is noted that the Preliminary Amendment is made only to more particularly define the invention and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, for narrowing the scope of the claims, or for any reason related to a statutory requirement for patentability.

It is further noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claims, even if amended herein or amended during prosecution.

Early, favorable prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayment to Attorney's Deposit Account Number 50-1114.

Dated: 24 July 2009

Department of the Navy
Office of Counsel
3824 Strauss Ave., Suite 103
Indian Head, MD 20640-5152
(301) 744-5603

Respectfully submitted,



Fredric J. Zimmerman
Registration No. 48, 747